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PATENT

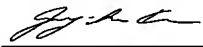
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

the application of: YAMAMOTO et al.  
Application No.: 10/735,331  
Confirmation No.: 3792  
Title: "Percutaneous Removal of Sentinel Lymph  
Node Using Contrast Imaging for  
Identification"

Filed: December 12, 2003  
Atty. Dkt. No.: MNOAP004  
Examiner: Unknown  
Art Unit: 3736

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, DC 22313-1450 on May 26, 2004.

Signed:   
Jung-hua Kuo

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 CFR §§1.56 AND 1.97

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450


Dear Sir:

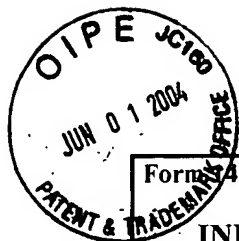
The reference(s) listed in the attached PTO Form 1449, copies of which are attached, may be material to examination of the above-identified patent application. These references were cited in a corresponding PCT application. A copy of the International Search Report dated April 27, 2004 is enclosed herewith. Applicants submit the reference(s) in compliance with their duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §§1.56 and 1.97. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to make these reference(s) of official record in this application.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned hereby certifies that the references enclosed herewith were first cited in a search report from a foreign patent office less than three months before the filing date of the present Information Disclosure Statement. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that no fee is due in conjunction with the filing of this IDS. However, should the Commissioner determine that additional fees are required for filing the present Information Disclosure Statement, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any such fees to our deposit account number 50-1217 (Order No. MNOAP004).

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Form 449/PTO <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> (Use as many sheets as necessary)	<b>Application No.:</b>	10/735,331
	<b>Filing Date</b>	December 12, 2003
	<b>Inventor(s):</b>	YAMAMOTO et al.
	<b>Art Unit</b>	3736
	<b>Examiner Name</b>	Unknown
Sheet 1 of 1	<b>Atty Docket No.</b>	MNOAP004

### U.S. Patent Documents

Examiner Initials	Citation No.	Document No. Number-Kind Code	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Patentee or Applicant	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures
	A	6,418,338	07-09-2002		
	B	5,895,640	04-20-1999		
	C				
	D				
	E				
	F				
	G				
	H				
	I				
	J				
	K				
	L				
	M				
	N				

### Foreign Patent Documents

Examiner Initials	Citation No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document Country code-Number-Kind Code	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Patentee or Applicant	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures	Trans- lation <sup>2</sup>
	O					
	P					
	Q					
	R					

### Other Documents -- Non Patent Literature Documents

Examiner Initials	Citation No. <sup>1</sup>	Author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), Title (when appropriate), Title of Item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), Date, Page(s), Volume-Issue Nos., Publisher, City and/or Country where published.	Trans- lation <sup>2</sup>
	S		
	T		
	U		
	V		

<b>Examiner Signature</b>	<b>Date Considered</b>
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Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicants' unique citation designation number (optional).

<sup>2</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.